

Congressional Medal of Honor in May 1952 by then-President Eisenhower for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his own life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as fire team leader of Company A, 1st Battalion of the 7th Marines, the 1st Marine Division, in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea on May 28, 1952.

Advancing with his platoon in the initial assault on the company against a strongly fortified and heavily defended hill position, Corporal Champagne skillfully led his fire team through a veritable hail of intense enemy machine gunfire, small gunfire, and grenade fire, overrunning trenches in a series of almost impenetrable bunker positions before reaching the crest of a hill and placing his men in a defensive position.

Suffering from painful leg wounds while assisting in repelling the ensuing hostile counterattack, which was launched under cover of a murderous hail of mortar and artillery fire, he steadfastly refused evacuation and fearlessly continued his control of his fire team. When the enemy counterattack increased in intensity and a hostile grenade landed in the midst of his fire team, Corporal Champagne unhesitatingly seized that deadly missile and hurled it in the direction of the approaching enemy.

Unfortunately, as the chairman just mentioned, the grenade as it left his hand exploded, blowing off his hand and throwing his body into the midst of the oncoming fire. Mortally wounded by enemy mortar fire while in this exposed position, Corporal Champagne lost his life, but in doing so showed his gallant leadership, fortitude, and spirit of self-sacrifice in the face of almost certain death, and undoubtedly saved many of the lives of his fellow marines.

Mr. Champagne made a great contribution, not only to our State but also to the history of our Nation. I look forward to the day when Mr. Champagne's family and I cut the ribbon, and let them know just how much we appreciate his gallantry. By naming this post office, we will bestow a well-deserved honor on a great man who will be forever remembered.

Madam Speaker, I again want to thank my colleagues, our ranking member, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FATTAH], and Chairman MCHUGH for their support of this legislation, and I ask the support of my colleagues for 2013.

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, let me just associate myself, if I may, with the very eloquent words of the last speaker, and urge all of my colleagues to join us in supporting what is a very worthy tribute to a more than deserving young man.

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We, in support of this bill, not only recognize the courageous act of Corporal Champagne, but in some important way symbolize our thanks to thousands and thousands of Americans who have given their lives in defense of this Nation or on behalf of our Government, either in the armed service or in law enforcement, in any number of ways. So I think it is very appropriate that this House recognize an individual, but in doing that, hopefully send a signal to the Nation that we appreciate the acts of so many individuals that have helped us move forward.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2013.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill just passed, H.R. 2013.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

DOUGLAS APPLGATE POST OFFICE

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2129) to designate the U.S. Post Office located at 150 North 3d Street in Steubenville, OH, as the "Douglas Applegate Post Office."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2129

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States Post Office located at 150 North 3d Street in Steubenville, Ohio, shall be known and designated as the "Douglas Applegate Post Office".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States Post Office referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Douglas Applegate Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH] and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FATTAH] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. MCHUGH].

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 2129 designates the U.S. Post Office located at 150 North 3d Street in Steubenville, OH, as the Douglas Applegate Post Office. The legislation was introduced by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] and cosponsored by the entire House delegation from the State of Ohio, as in accordance with the policy of the Committee on Government Reform and House Oversight.

Mr. Applegate was born and educated in Steubenville. He served in the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate for 8 years, respectively. He was then elected to the 95th Congress by Ohio's 18th Congressional District, and reelected each term until his retirement after the 103d Congress.

Mr. Applegate was known as an advocate of America's veterans, and was chairman of the Subcommittee on Compensation, Pension, and Insurance of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Though he was known as a quiet worker, he strongly and emphatically defended American jobs.

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Madam Speaker, I urge our colleagues to support H.R. 2129 designating the U.S. Post Office located at 150 North 3d Street in Steubenville, OH, as the Douglas Applegate Post Office.

Madam Speaker, the Congressional Budget Office has affirmed that the legislation contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 and would impose no costs on State, local, or tribal governments.

Madam Speaker, I would say, as happened earlier this afternoon with our tribute to a former colleague, Mr. Moorhead, that Mr. Applegate as well represents the kind of dignity, the kind of hard work and honesty, that this body strives for each and every day.

□ 1330

And he certainly would represent a very, very fitting recipient of this postal naming bill, and I urge the support by all of my colleagues.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.